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REPORT

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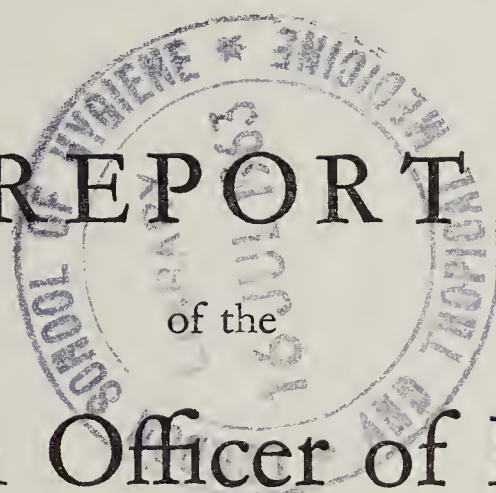
Medical Officer of Health

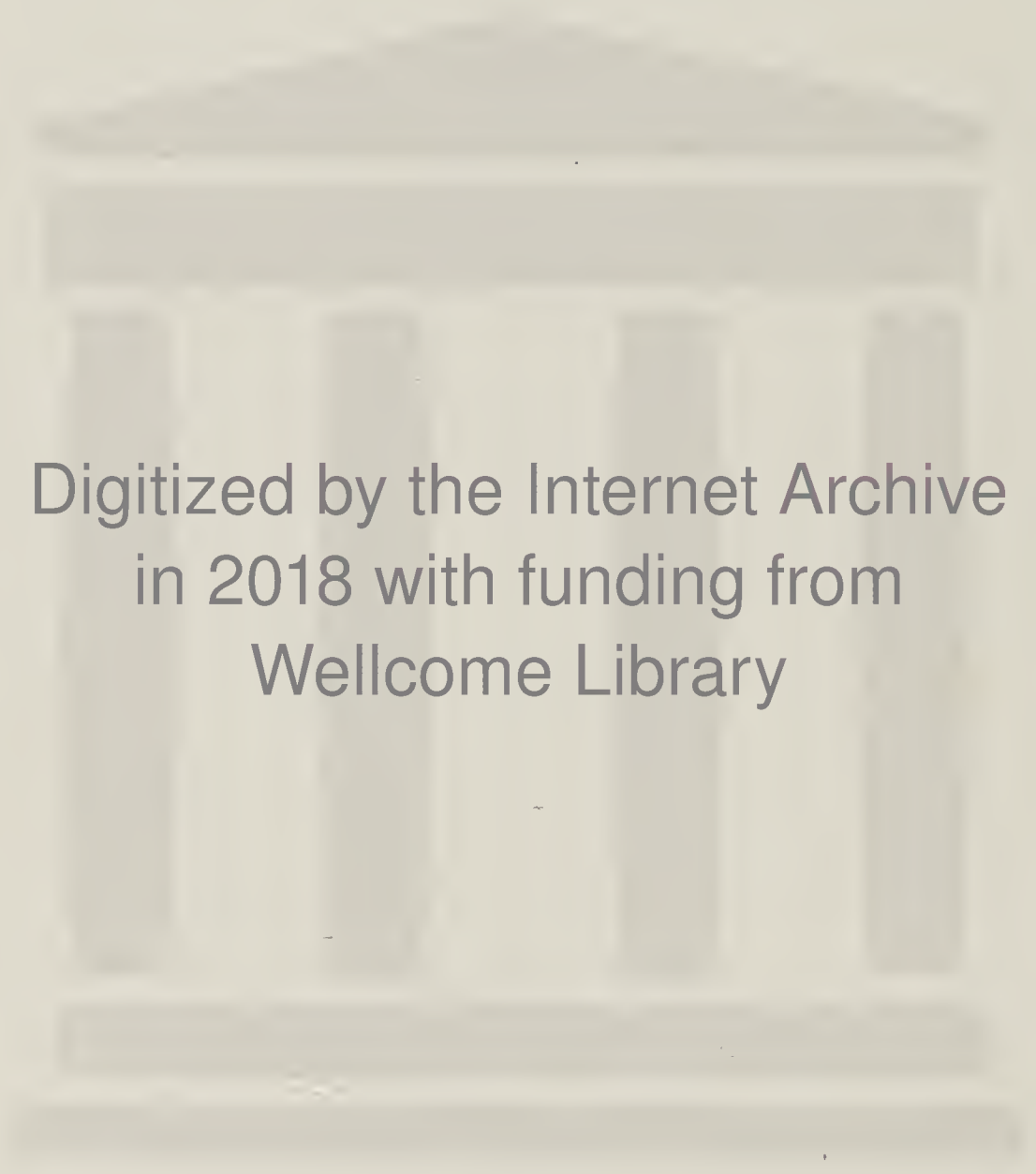
for the Year 1959

by

N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

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Urban District of
PORTSLADE - BY - SEA



REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1959

by

N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Telephone Hove 31011

HOVE:

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Councillor R. SHIELDS, J.P.

(Chairman of the Council).

Councillor Mrs. E. F. CAVE, J.P.

(Chairman of the Committee).

Councillor S. G. BAKER.

Councillor W. H. BATES.

Councillor M. D. BAUMANN.

Councillor H. F. PARKER, J.P.

Councillor R. B. POWELL.

Councillor R. SHIELDS, J.P.

Councillor R. R. SHIMMANS.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

A. DONALD, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Urban District of Portslade-by-Sea.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1959

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1959 drawn up in accordance with the Regulations of the Ministry of Health, together with some brief comments in this foreword on matters of special local importance and interest.

Vital Statistics.

The population again increased by some 200, a smaller rise than last year but the excess of Births over Deaths was some 70—almost double last year's figure. There were only 3 infant deaths of which 2 were in infants under 1 week and due to causes not preventible. This gave an Infant Mortality Rate of 13.39—the lowest ever recorded in this area. There were again no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Diarrhoea in children under the age of 2—an indication not only of the mildness of these diseases in general but of the high standard of mothercraft and child care amongst parents. The total number of deaths was 154—to which the major contribution was made by Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Cancer. Amongst the latter were 7 cases—all males—of Malignant Disease of the Lung.

Infectious Disease.

The pattern of Infectious Disease remained very much as in previous years except that Measles seems to have reverted to an annual as opposed to a biennial incidence. There was only 1 case of Poliomyelitis—non-paralytic—in a child of 3 immunised with the 3 doses in 1958/1959. It should be made clear that no claim has ever been made that Immunisation will protect against the Non-Paralytic variety. The case of Food Poisoning notified in May seemed on further investigation to be more likely one of Gastro-Enteritis.

Tuberculosis.

4 new cases were added to the Register—all in the 20 to 45 age group and there were in addition 10 inward transfers. Removals

by death or other cases amounted to 17 so that the total remaining on the Register was practically the same as 1958. There has, however, been a great change both in the type of new notifications and the method of treatment—many of these are early or incipient cases discovered by the Mass Radiography Unit who after an initial short period in hospital can resume their normal life with the assistance of the new drugs which have superseded the more drastic surgical procedures of only a few years ago.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The table on page 18 sets out both the number of individuals immunised during the year and also the grand total since the scheme was first instituted in 1956. The great difference from last year was due to an alteration in the age limits which were extended to 25 and to the effect of the death from Poliomyelitis of a well known professional footballer. The publicity value of this tragic fatality far exceeded any of the results of our more stereotyped propaganda methods and for some weeks the evening clinic found very great difficulty in coping with the rush of teenagers of both sexes. It is ironic that a tragedy of this nature is apparently necessary to bring home the lesson of prevention.

Whilst our chief preoccupation was with Immunisation against Poliomyelitis, similar protection against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough continued to be provided and some 250—mostly those under 5 years—received the full course against Diphtheria of which 200 were also protected against Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Slum Clearance.

As explained in last year's report the 5 year programme of Slum Clearance areas first approved in 1954 was completed in 1958—but the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has now asked those Local Authorities who have already completed their programme to review the situation during the current year and submit fresh proposals. It is evident that in Portslade there are additional areas to be considered for this purpose and the Public Health Inspector is now engaged in a fresh survey, the results of which will be submitted to the Council in due course.

Smoke Abatement.

The Joint Committee of which Portslade is a constituent member met quarterly throughout the year and received reports

on the analysis of the contents of the deposit gauges. These varied according to the strength and direction of the prevailing winds but in the main did not exceed the low average on the national scale. The emphasis so far as complaints are concerned has continued to be on the dissemination of coal and coke dust rather than grit and members of the Committee paid visits to both the Electricity and Gas Undertakings — the largest consumers and storers of coal and coke in the area as a possible source of at least some of the contamination. However, after discussions on the sites they were unable to suggest any fresh measures which could be at once practical and efficacious.

They also at one of their meetings went very fully into the question of the value of their efforts and necessity for their continuance as an advisory body to their respective Councils and finally decided that both nationally and locally they were serving a useful purpose and should therefore continue in being at any rate for some years to come.

Old People.

Through the efforts of the 2 Geriatric Health Visitors on the staff of the Hove and Portslade Health Sub-Committee those old people requiring supervision in their own homes have been visited at regular intervals. Assistance towards admission to hospital or old people's home has also been given as occasion arose but no cases requiring compulsory removal under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1949, were dealt with during the year.

General.

My thanks are as in all previous years due to the Clerk and the Surveyor for their unfailing assistance and advice whenever it has been asked for and also particularly to the Public Health Inspector, Mr. Donald, whose co-operation and conscientious service at all times has relieved me of any anxiety about the ordinary routine of the public health services.

I am also most appreciative of the support and encouragement I have received at all times from the members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

N. E. CHADWICK,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS 1959

Population : 15,190.

DEATHS :	Total	M	F
	154	88	66

Death Rate : 10.13 (Standard).
11.14 (Corrected).

Deaths from :

Measles (all ages)	..	..	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	Nil
Pneumonia	..	..	7
Cancer (all forms)	..	..	29

	Total	M	F
Live Births	224	110	114

Live Birth rate per 1000 population .. 14.75 (Standard)
15.48 (Corrected)

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births : 2.67%

Stillbirths	3	1	2
-------------	----	----	---	---	---

Rate per 1000 Total live and stillbirths : 13.21

Total Live and Still Births	..	227	111	116
-----------------------------	----	-----	-----	-----

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	3	—	3
-------------------------------------	---	---	---

Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births	27.90
--	----	----	-------

Infant Mortality Rates :

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	..	13.39
--	----	-------

Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 Legitimate live births	9.17
--	----	----	------

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 Illegitimate live births	166.66
--	----	----	--------

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	8.92
--	----	----	------

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	8.92
---	----	----	------

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths)	22.02
---	----	----	-------

Maternal Mortality (inclusive abortion) :

Number of deaths	Nil
------------------	----	----	-----

Rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths	—
--	----	----	---

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

DRAINAGE.

The whole of the public roads in the district are sewered by gravitation on the water carriage system.

All houses in the District are connected to the public sewers with the following exceptions :

There are 19 houses served by cesspools, of these cesspools 4 have no sewerage facilities in the neighbourhood and 3 do not, as regards the statutory distance, come within the requirements of the Act.

In addition there are 5 houses, situate in outlying parts of the District, provided with earth closets.

All sewerage is discharged into intercepting sewers which are under the control of the Portslade and Southwick Outfall Sewerage Board. Disposal is by means of Sea Outfall owned by the Board.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR. The Public Health Inspector has prepared the following Annual Statement of his visits and notices :

Houses inspected for housing defects	..	562
Number of inspections made for the purpose.		1124
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	..	438
Number of inspections made for that purpose		976
Number of complaints received.	.. ..	173
Informal Notices served (P.H. & H. Act)	..	101
Statutory Notices served	.. ..	15
Houses found dirty or verminous	..	11
Houses with insufficient refuse bin	..	1

Defective and Choked Drains	..	..	177
Defective Closets	..	..	14
Defective Sinks	..	..	7
Defective Roofs and Gutters	..	..	48
Damp Walls and Ceilings	..	..	37
Defective Walls and Ceilings	..	..	86
Defective Floors	..	..	26
Defects to Windows, Doors, etc.	..	..	48
Defects to Grates	..	..	14
Defects to Chimneys	..	..	13
Defective Paving	..	..	5

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The destruction of rats and mice has been successfully continued throughout the year, both in surface properties and in the Council's sewers.

During the year 131 infestations were dealt with on surface properties and two sewer treatments carried out.

The treatment is free to private properties but a small charge is made for business premises.

Eradication of Vermin.

During the year 11 houses were found to be in a dirty or verminous condition and of these, 7 were disinfested by spraying with insecticides.

This work has been carried out by the Council and the cost of materials has been charged to the Owner or Occupier.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED AT 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

Council Houses and Flats	..	..	791
Old Peoples Bungalows	..	..	33

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	562
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1124
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	15
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	27
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	128

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	57
---	----

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There is only 1 Farm in the District which is supplying Tuberculin Tested Milk.

During the year there were 29 Dealers' Licences and 4 Supplementary Licences issued for the sale of designated Milk in this District.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. SECTION 16.

There are 68 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and 7 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, pickled or preserved food.

There were 14 inspections of registered premises throughout the year.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

During the year 10 inspections of food premises were made and in 9 of them infringements of the Regulations were found.

Notices were served in respect of the following items :—

Provision of First Aid Materials	..	..	6
Provision of Hot Water Supply	..	..	3
Provision of Wash Hand Basin	..	..	2
Display of Notices requiring persons to wash their hands after using sanitary convenience	..	..	9
Provision of towels, soap, etc.	..	..	1
Insufficient ventilation	..	..	—
Walls, ceilings, etc., requiring repair or decoration			—
Smoking whilst handling food	..	..	1

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There are no slaughterhouses in the District and most of the home killed meat is brought in from Brighton Abattoir.

No butchers meat was condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption.

The following foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption :—

800 cases of oranges.

5 stones fish.

1 jar of jam.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers prosecuted
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	32	9	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	48	39	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers Premises)	8	5	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
TOTAL ..	88	53	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Premises dealt with during year 1959 :

8 Middle Street—Closing Order.

Flat 1—116 St. Andrews Road—Closing Order.

Flat 2—116 St. Andrews Road—Closing Order.

Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS 1959.

	New Cases				Inward Transfers				Deaths				Other Removals				Cases on Register			
	Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.		Pul.		Non. Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	6
20—25	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	8	4	2	15
25—35	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	13	12	2	29
35—45	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	14	12	3	29
45—65	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	33	10	—	46
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	2	—	8
Totals	2	2	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	2	—	—	8	7	—	—	77	44	9	137

INFECTIOUS DISEASE - 1959
DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.		TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED
Scarlet Fever	.. .. .	44
Whooping Cough	.. .. .	32
Measles	.. .. .	179
Pneumonia	.. .. .	21
Erysipelas	.. .. .	2
Dysentery	.. .. .	1
Food Poisoning	.. .. .	1
Poliomyelitis	.. .. .	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	.. .. .	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children in the Local Health Authority area on 31st December, 1959, who have completed a course of diphtheria immunisation at any time between 1st January, 1945 and 31st December, 1959.

Age on 31-12-59 <i>i.e.</i> , Born in Year	Under 1 1959	1—4 1955-1958	5—9 1950-1954	10—14 1945-1949	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster)					
A. 1955-1959	38	500	608	507	1653
B. 1954 or earlier			119	707	826

Number of Children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1959.

Aged Under 5 yrs.	Aged 5—14 yrs.	Total
173	67	240

COMBINED DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION, YEAR 1959

Age at date of immunisation	0—4 yrs.	5—14 yrs.	Total
Portslade	167	32	199

VACCINATION ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

Number of Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during Period.						
AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 and over	Total
Number Vaccinated	161	4	2	37	17	221
Number Re-Vaccinated ..	—	—	—	30	25	55

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

1959

Class	Number vaccinated with two injections during the year	Number of applicants awaiting vaccination at 31st Dec., 1959
CHILDREN born in the years 1943 to 1959 ..	696	5
YOUNG PERSONS born in the years 1933 to 1942 ..	789	3
Expectant Mothers ..	87	2
Others	10	—
TOTAL ..	1582	10

Number of persons who had received one injection only at 31st December, 1959.

(1) Children	18
(2) Young Persons ..	6
(3) Expectant Mothers ..	3
(4) Others	—
	—
Total ..	27
	—

Total number of persons who since the inception of the scheme had received three injections at 31st December, 1959.

2169
